

COLUMBIA.

Thursday Morning, Feb. 28, 1867.

What the South is Doing.

Southern enterprise and Southern industry were formerly—and deservedly so, to some extent—the subject of the sneers and taunts of the cute and pushing Yankee, who, either on drumming or peddling tours, wrote home letters from the South, or who, settling among the old slaveholders, plied his business or profession with such untiring energy and industry as to outstrip, in a short time, his more indolent Southern competitor. These are well-known facts, and their existence was attributed to various causes—some laying the universal disinclination to actual labor exhibited by the native Southerners to constitutional laziness, caused by climate, &c.; while others attributed it to the baleful influence of the so-called peculiar institution. Whatever may have been the true cause of this state of things, it did exist to a great extent; but it has passed away, under the sweeping effects of the war-tornado, which uprooted the institution itself.

There has a change come over our people, or, at least, is in its incipency, which illustrates that there is an energy and industry, active and living, however long they may have lain dormant, among even the Southern people proper. Their existence is the more remarkable in the present depressing condition, both political and financial, in which those people now find themselves. Reared in comparative easy circumstances, with laborers and servants, and frequently mechanics and artisans, their own property, they were suddenly transferred to an impoverished condition, their laborers, servants, &c., set free, a large portion of their property destroyed, and their banking and financial system completely prostrated. Adversity is an excellent disciplinarian, and the people of the South are enjoying all the benefits it can confer.

Among these "blessings in disguise," the most prominent, because the most pressing, is the necessity for exertion—for hard work. And the sufferings and trials through which they have passed have brought to light the further necessity of new fields of industry. The whites of the South cannot cultivate their former large plantations of cotton, and, therefore, if they wish to prosper—indeed, if they even wish to make a living—they must cast about for other channels of industry. Old things have passed away, and with them, the Southern agriculturist must doff all the paraphernalia and all the habits of his former position under the dead institution. He may not be able to make wooden nutmegs, nor need he go to peddling wooden clocks, but he can turn in to a business which will not only remunerate well, but will curtail the profits of those who use them to crush the people from whom they were extorted.

The past, its institutions and its associations are gone; the present we have with us, and the developments it is making in this Southern country give a blasting refutation of the Puritan allegations of the inertness and laziness of the former slaveholders of the South.

We are led to these reflections by the following brief, but very pleasant sketch of what the Southern people are doing, in the midst of their poverty, and bowed down under grievous and onerous burdens of taxation, and other measures which peculiarly operate against them. We quote from the Sandersville Georgian:

"Virginia is setting an example to her sister Southern States. Her magnificent water power is being laid under contribution by the hands of genius and industry. The hum of the spindle and the loom, the noise of busy machinery in every department of the mechanic arts, is waking the echoes of those lovely valleys, where, but a few months ago, a crowd, flying over them, would have had to carry along its rations."

"Tennessee, with the incubus of Brownlow and his hungry pack of 'loyalists,' is reported to have twelve mills in successful operation, with an invested capital of \$700,000, and producing an annual aggregate of manufactured goods to the amount of \$1,000,000."

"South Carolina, upon whose devoted head Sherman poured out his vials of wrath, brings into play from her ashes eleven cotton factories, running 27,000 spindles and 936 looms. In the vicinity of Fayetteville, in North Carolina, there are one dozen factories. At Raleigh, in the same

State, a mammoth building is to be erected for the manufacturing of cotton and woolen goods, while Charlotte is now producing cloths and cassimeres of superb quality. This latter mill alone runs 25,000 spindles, and consumes about 3,000 pounds of wool weekly. Mississippi and Alabama are working out the problem of their independence; while Georgia, our own scourged State, sends out a loud amen from seventy-five mills in operation and twelve in process of execution. Of these latter some are projected on a scale to rival the notorious Lowell, or the pretentious establishment of the learned Senator Sprague. Three miles from Covington, and but sixty from this office, has grown up since the war the village of Steadman. Under the magic touch of its founder, Mr. E. Steadman, mills for the fabrications of prints, woolen goods, homespun and yarns are rapidly rising, and will soon supply a demand which has filled heretofore the pocket of our New England tax assessors."

In the midst of all our political gloom and poverty, this statement, which is doubtless correct, is well calculated to gladden and cheer the heart of every true Southerner, and to inspire hope for a prosperous future. If there be no halting in the career thus so promptly and successfully commenced, and there be no further obstacles thrown in the way of Southern industry—and God knows there are enough already—the looms and spindles of the Southern States will soon be driving a business that will compete with, if not supercede, the prosperity of the moneyed lords of the New England factories.

Emigration to Brazil.

Much has been written and said both in favor of and against the Southern people emigrating to Brazil. It may be that, under the increasing political pressure, some may be tempted to quit the land of their fathers, and we therefore quote the following from a Rio Janeiro letter in the New York Tribune, which is certainly not very encouraging:

"Can my voice avail to warn honest American mechanics and laborers against a blind emigration to Brazil? Each steamer brings from 100 to 300 deceived men and women, the greater part of whom are miserable and begging for help in less than two days. There is room for associated labor—a colony will do well here, if judiciously managed. But the solitary mechanic or laborer, whatever his skill may be, cannot, so long as he is a stranger, compete with the cheap slaves and cheaper workmen who do the shabby work of Brazilian trades. I have seen many weeping wives and mothers, and gloomy men, dragging through these streets, appealing piteously to every American passer-by for work, and telling the same tale of disappointed expectations. Our Consul is over-run by them. Every American store is full of them. They enlist on our men-of-war as landsmen and boys—good, skillful mechanics serving for the pittance, pay and rations of navy green-horns. For organized emigration, I repeat, Brazil offers many inducements. But any poor man is wretchedly fooled who leaves the States, expecting to do better on his own hook in Brazil. Use this testimony as you will, for I am grieved to see so much disappointment and suffering."

The St. Louis Republican contains an article predicting the business disasters which are certain to result from the present political condition of the South. It closes with this pregnant and truthful sentence:

"The political aspect warrants the expectation that we shall have a year or more of commercial gloom, depression and disaster. Prudent men will, as all should, take warning and be setting their houses in order. They are now at the mercy of men who, in aiming at the destruction of Constitutional Government and Republican institutions, would laugh at the ruin of the whole mercantile class as the merest bagatelle."

SOUTHERN ORPHAN ASSOCIATION.—The United States authorities have declined to return the "Jeff. Davis" mansion to the city of Richmond, and as the "Southern Orphan Association" is thereby prevented from complying with the contract made with the holders of certificates in their proposed gift enterprise, the agent at this place, Mr. P. H. Trout, (says the Staunton *Vindicator*), has been notified to discontinue the sale of certificates till further ordered, and to refund the money for those already sold by him.

A young man in Pittsburg has made a will, leaving \$5,000 to his betrothed. His sister, with whom he resides, refuses to grant the lovers an interview, because she will get but \$1,000.

Grace Greenwood is in favor of giving the ballot to every woman who owns a sewing machine or a wash-tub.

From Washington.

The following Washington despatches we take from the Baltimore *Sun*, of Monday. They are from its usually reliable special correspondents:

The military government reconstruction bill was delivered to President at 4.20 p. m. on the 21st instant, just eight days, nineteen hours and forty minutes prior to the hour fixed for the expiration of the thirty-ninth Congress and the birth of the fortieth. There is good ground for stating that the President will send in his veto message upon this bill to Congress on Wednesday next, and I feel confident the features of the veto will be substantially as I indicated in a despatch a few days ago. No one now expects the President to "pocket the bill," nor to "approve it under protest," as has been advised by some.

It is conceded by all parties now that if the President confines himself to a good-tempered, dignified objection to such parts of the bill as he especially takes exception to, points out such features, if any, as he could possibly favor in another shape, and concludes by some indication or assurance that should the bill be passed by Congress over the veto, its provisions shall be faithfully executed, so far as the President has any duties to perform under the Act, the message will be productive of the very best feeling towards him, and will be almost, or quite, as satisfactory to the conservative Republicans, and possibly the radicals, as his unqualified approval of the measure.

In fact, there is almost entire coincidence of opinion upon the course that should be pursued by Mr. Johnson, and all agree that he could not be expected to give the bill his signature, consistently with his honest convictions. No one, therefore, demands from him anything else but a veto message; but all coincide in the hope that the document will be of the character I have indicated. And I feel confident the President will not disappoint this hope, except, perhaps, in the suggestion that he give assurance that he will execute the law in this particular. It is believed that President Johnson regards his treatment of the civil rights bill, the freedman's bureau bill, and others that he has vetoed, and which were passed over his veto, as sufficient guarantee that he will execute the military government bill, should it become a law over his veto, and that he regards a pledge of the kind mentioned, from the Executive, in a message, as not only anomalous, but uncalled for. In the meantime, a pressure is made upon the President to induce him to pocket the bill, and such a course may yet be deemed proper by Mr. Johnson.

The "tenure of office" bill was delivered to the Executive at 10 o'clock p. m., of the 20th instant, thus giving the full ten days for his consideration of that measure, when, should he fail to act upon it, the bill will become a law without the President's signature. It is probable, or rather, I may say it is possible, that Mr. Johnson will permit this bill to become a law without his approval, and yet so strong is his objection to the House amendment, which provides that cabinet officers shall not be removed without the consent of the Senate, that the President may veto the bill. Were this feature stricken out, the bill would promptly receive Mr. Johnson's approval, and at once become a law, for he would be glad to get rid altogether of the annoyance to which he is subjected in the disposition of the Executive patronage, and he has long been of the opinion that such patronage is more detrimental than beneficial to the interests of an administration.

Any measure, therefore, which surrounds office-seekers with greater difficulties, and provides a severer ordeal for them to go through, would receive Mr. Johnson's approval. But he regards the members of the cabinet as standing in such close, intimate relations with the Executive, that entire unanimity of sentiment, political and otherwise, and unbounded confidence and respect, should exist between these "confidential advisers" and the President, and the Executive have the power to remove them without question. And, in fact, such is the nearly unanimous opinion of the members of the Senate, who were reluctantly forced to vote for the House amendment, in order to ensure the passage of the bill.

The Sherman reconstruction bill was considered in cabinet session yesterday, and all the members, save one, expressed their decided opposition to the measure.

General Grant, on good authority, is reported as saying that he regards the military government bill as very unwise legislation.

An exchange says it has known men of means to hang around a store where the proprietor takes a paper, for the mere purpose of reading the paper and getting the news without its costing them anything. There are scores of families whose parental heads spend enough in bad rum and tobacco weekly to pay for a dozen newspapers, and still persist in sponging what little information they get of what is going on in the world from their neighbors.

A man is, chemically speaking, forty-five pounds of carbon and nitrogen diffused through five and a half pailfuls of water.

Relief for Southern Planters.

A despatch from St. Louis, dated 22d instant, says:

A committee on behalf of the St. Louis Board of Trade have issued a memorial to Congress on the subject of relief to the South. After setting forth the condition of the Southern planters, the distress of the people generally, in consequence of the failure of the cotton and corn crops, and the importance to the nation of a good cotton crop, the committee urge Congress to make an appropriation of from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000, or limited as to the amount only by the necessities and wants of the suffering districts, for the purpose of supplying with provisions all who are engaged in producing cotton, and who are unable to procure provisions in any other way, the cost of the supplies so furnished to be a lien on the crops, and to be paid for out of the first proceeds of sales of cotton; advances thus made to be collected through the agents of the Government for collecting the revenue tax on cotton, with proper checks and balances, such as can readily be established between the War and Treasury Departments.

A system can be put in operation, to continue for one session, which will afford perfect security to the Government, and which will give the desired relief. The committee claim that this plan will not only relieve the Government of the threatened necessity of feeding the destitute as an act of charity, but will fully employ the labor in the country and prevent a famine in the land.

On this subject of relief to planters, the Baltimore *Sun*, of Saturday, says:

The project which we mentioned some days since, for obtaining loans in this city, on the acceptances of Messrs. Graesser, Lee, Smith & Co., cotton factors, of Charleston, secured by first liens on the crops of planters to whom advances shall be made, under the laws of South Carolina, we learn, is being entertained to such extent by some of our capitalists and business men as will probably insure encouraging success. Some subscriptions have been made in influential quarters, and the measure will be further prosecuted among the business community. The money is desired chiefly for supplying provisions for the laborers on the cotton plantations, without which the crops for the present year must be meagre in the extensive Sumter District, where the blacks are now found abundantly willing to work. Baltimore, by reason of her steamship lines, can be made the market or final shipping point for the cotton of that region, and all such measures as this must tend to secure the trade and make this the point of supply for the planters now and hereafter.

THE RESTORATION OF CONFISCATED LANDS.—CONFIRMATION OF TAX SALES. The following proceedings in the United States Senate, on the 21st, shows what is being done in relation to confiscated lands, and lands sold for taxes:

Mr. Frelinghuysen reported, from the Judiciary Committee, the House bill to restore the possession of lands confiscated by the authorities of the States lately in rebellion, with an amendment. As amended, the bill provides that in cases where such confiscations have been made, the loyal citizen so deprived of his property is hereby declared seized of the same, and on complaint of such persons, their heirs or assigns, to any justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, or District Judge of the district wherein the land lies, or to any United States Commissioner for said district, accompanied with satisfactory evidence of title, &c., such justice or commissioner shall certify the facts of such proof, and deliver the same to the commanding officers of the military forces stationed within the said State or District, which officer shall restore to the person aggrieved the property thus confiscated, and protect him in the possession of the same.

Mr. Sherman introduced a bill to confirm the sales made by the District Tax Commissioners for South Carolina to persons in the army, navy and marine corps, such sales being made under the eleventh section of the Act for the collection of direct tax, &c., and under instruction from the President, upon the terms set forth in the conditions of sale, provided, that no greater sum shall be repaid as overplus to the purchaser than the amount actually paid by him; and in case of failure to comply with the terms named, such property shall be resold by the Tax Commissioners, they being authorized to make one bid on each tract on behalf of the United States.

The little town of Columbus, Nebraska, was the scene of an atrocious murder on the 16th inst. It appears that two men, named Robert Wilson and R. B. Grant, had some dispute, when the former killed the latter. The cause was so unprovoked that the citizens took Wilson out of the sheriff's keeping and hung him till dead to a telegraph pole in the public street.

A compositor, in Kokomo, Ind., is said to have had a sore finger, from which, after suffering great pain, he squeezed two brevier types. A contemporary advises him to squeeze again, and get the rest of the font and a double-cylinder press.

MILITARY GOVERNMENT AT THE SOUTH.—The Cincinnati *Enquirer*, commenting upon the passage of the Sherman bill, says:

"The Southern people are to be placed under a military vassalage. Can it be that the Northern and Western men, when they gave their votes to place such men as we see holding a majority in Congress, contemplated that they would so abuse their power? Do they realize the fact that, to keep the South subjected, a standing army of 100,000 men will not be sufficient? Are they prepared to endure a perpetual system of taxation, under which that of England even appears light? By this act, they have converted the South into a gigantic Ireland, and an Ireland that will be more troublesome in case of any foreign imbroglio than the 'Green Isle' is to England, for its hate will be solid, compact and undivided. Here is a precious *finale* to the 'war for the Union,' as hypocritical a motto as ever was invented by liars and sneaks. Had such a consummation as this been foreseen, we are satisfied that not one in ten of the brave men who shouldered a musket for the preservation of an undivided country, but would have been content to embrace the alternative of certain black journalists, and let the Union slide. The enslavement of a brave, gallant and impulsive people, however they may have erred, will be recorded as one of the monstrosities of the age. The question is not alone whether the South will endure it, for we err if the manly heart of the North is not indignant at the outrage upon its old associates of the early Revolution."

WENDELL PHILLIPS' LECTURING.—A despatch, dated Chicago 21st inst., says:

The lecture of Mr. Wendell Phillips, under the auspices of the Young Men's Association, this evening, was an extraordinary success. The opera house was literally packed from pit to dome with the very best of our citizens. The two hours' speech was an unimpassioned and candid discussion of general principles, to which the audience gave, at every step, the most cordial assent. The last fifteen or twenty minutes were devoted to a terse and business-like analysis of the relations of the President to the national interests, and without any animadversions upon Mr. Johnson individually. It was only asserted that he was at least objectionally identified with the rebel interests, and his room was better than his company. At every allusion to impeachment the applause was wildly enthusiastic, and the temperate but decisive criticism of General Grant's excessive neutrality was frankly accepted. On the whole, it is doubtful if an equally satisfactory political address has been made in this city since the war began.

RAISING THE DUST.—The Montgomery *Advertiser* gives the following as one of the ways now much in vogue of raising current funds:

A well-dressed sharper suddenly makes his appearance before two or three of the descendants of Ham, and very pleasantly inquires: "Can either of you gentlemen give me change for this \$10 bill?" Cuffee, highly elated at the flattering epithet applied to him, very eagerly produces the required change, when the sharper seizes the whole amount, and, without giving up his own bill, bolts around the corner as quick as a lightning flash, leaving his sable friend the very image of despair. This little dodge has been practiced by one man at least, just once too often, and the result of his speculation is, that he is an unwilling guest of the city.

IS TEXAS A STATE?—In the suit for stolen bonds which Texas is prosecuting in the Supreme Court of the United States, the fact of recovery, says the *World*, hinges wholly upon the question, "Has Texas the existence and powers of a State or not? This method is exactly the right one. It takes the matter of statehood out of the hands of politicians and before the court whose decision cannot but have weight, if not with the present, certainly with future Congress."

Du Chaillu, the eminent savan and traveler, is coming to America next month upon a lecturing tour. We believe he claims to have found men with tails, somewhere in Africa. If the eminent savan, upon his arrival, will take a look in upon the menagerie at Washington, he will find, not men with tails, but two-legged animals without heads.

The West Virginia Legislature is considering the propriety of requiring all editors to take the oath. Don't put any superfluous laws on your statute books, gentlemen. If the duties of his profession don't make an editor swear, laws will be powerless.

There were recently counted in the "old Bowery Theatre," of New York, 700 boys, of ten or twelve years of age, ragged, verminous, dirty, shock-headed, without proper clothing. The next generation of voters in that city bids fair to keep up the character of the present one.

Frederick Douglass was on Friday admitted within the bar of the House of the Michigan Legislature, introduced by the Speaker and received with applause.

Local Items.

Are you in want of furniture, dry goods, liquors, &c.? If so, call at Mr. A. R. Phillips' auction mart, this morning, and get supplied.

THE VARIETIES.—We direct attention to the advertisement of this company, in another column. They will perform again on Friday evening next. Reader, buy a ticket, and go and see the "platu and phrolic." Only fifty cents.

ANOTHER SEANDER.—Our Devil says the reason young ladies look so bold and fierce these latter days is, that they tie their hair so tightly on the back of the head that they cannot shut their eyes, which gives them their fierce look; and then their tremendous waterfalls so balance their heads up that they seem to cock their chins at everybody; hence their bold and defiant look.

EYES-DROPPING.—A few Sundays ago, in one of our churches, says our "man about town," a couple might have been noticed, apparently singing from the bottom of their souls out of the same hymn-book. Our local, being very religiously disposed, was sitting behind them, attempting to abstract his mind from "copy" till at least the services were over. At the end of a verse, our Mephistopheles heard the gentleman whisper to the lady, "Oh, say yes!" The next verse began, and the twain sang away as devoutly as if they were thinking about nothing but the hymn. When the verse ended, the fair one replied, "Go ask papa; all's right as far as I am concerned." The third verse began, and they sang away for dear life.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—Attention is called to the following advertisements, which are published this morning for the first time: J. Sulzbacher & Co.—House to Rent. Meeting of Acaen Lodge. Columbia Varieties.—Exhibition.

MILITARY.—We find the following—an extract, we presume, from a military order—in the *Charlotte Guardian*:

"The civil authorities of North Carolina and South Carolina being unable to disperse or capture the bands of outlaws calling themselves 'Regulators,' who are reported as engaged in robbing and murdering freedmen, and in committing depredations and outrages upon the persons and property of well-disposed citizens, all commanding officers of posts within this department are directed to use every means at their disposal to rid the country of these banditti. Whenever reports of outrages are received, parties will be sent in pursuit of these 'Regulators,' and when resistance to arrest is made they will be treated as 'guerillas,' and summarily punished. All prisoners so arrested will be held in military confinement, and the case reported to headquarters, at Charleston."

ALL VOID—A NEW IDEA.—Commenting on the preamble of the Congressional reconstruction bill, which declares that "no legal State Governments exist in the rebel States of North Carolina," &c., the New York *Journal of Commerce* says:

"If there be no legal State Governments, then everything done in the Legislature or courts, or in any other departments of these Governments, are void. The judgments obtained in their courts are void; the criminals confined in their prisons, by sentence pronounced in the State courts, are entitled to immediate discharge. There must be a general jail delivery. These are the necessary consequences of illegal State Governments."

THE COTTON LOAN.—The Liverpool *Journal of Commerce*, of the 7th inst., says:

The Committee of Bond-holders of the Confederate cotton loan have presented a petition to her Majesty's Government on behalf of their claims, accompanied by the opinions of Mr. Fleming, Q. C., and Mr. J. H. Lloyd. The fact of this loan having a special hypothecation of cotton which was forcibly taken by the North, they consider, places their stock in a different position to an ordinary Confederate loan.

SEIZURE AT BULL'S BAY, S. C.—The Government has received information of the seizure of a lot of hogheads of sugar, imported from Cuba, landed at Bull's Bay, S. C., without payment of duties, and then carried into the country. On seizing and opening them, each hoghead had a barrel in the centre of the sugar. Seven barrels were filled with West India rum, on which the duty was over \$70 a barrel, and five barrels with high-priced segars, &c.—*Tribune*.

In 1798 there were 200 newspapers in the United States. 178 supported the administration of John Adams.

A jeweller in New York imported \$3,000 worth of diamonds in a quantity of cork.